

Appl. No. 10/717,215  
Amdt. dated December 23, 2004  
Preliminary Amendment

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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1. (currently amended) A bag for carrying various articles, the bag comprising:

- a. a body;
- b. a strap coupled to the body for engaging a user's body above the user's ~~their~~ arms; and
- c. a contour panel adjacent a side of the body, the contour panel being positioned such that ~~it~~ the contour panel is between any articles within the bag and being configured such that ~~it~~ the contour panel is curved towards the user.

Claim 2. (original) A bag in accordance with claim 1 wherein the contour panel is within the body.

Claim 3. (original) A bag in accordance with claim 1 wherein the contour panel is contained within a sleeve within the body.

Claim 4. (currently amended) A bag in accordance with claim 1 wherein the contour panel is contained ~~with~~ within a wall that defines the body.

Claim 5. (original) A bag in accordance with claim 1 wherein the contour panel is coupled to an outer wall of the body.

Claim 6. (original) A bag in accordance with claim 1 wherein the contour panel includes a plurality of through-holes defined therein.

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Claim 7. (original) A bag in accordance with claim 1 wherein the contour panel includes a plurality of cavities defined therein.

Claim 8. (original) A bag in accordance with claim 1 wherein the contour panel includes padding on at least a portion of a side adjacent the user.

Claim 9. (new) A bag comprising:  
a body;  
a strap coupled to the body; and  
a contour panel adjacent a side of the body, the contour panel being positioned such that the contour panel is between any articles within the bag and being configured such that the contour panel curves towards a user, wherein the contour panel includes through holes and ridges.

Claim 10. (new) The bag of claim 9 wherein an inner wall of the contour panel has a radius of curvature of about 16.8 inches.

Claim 11. (new) The bag of claim 9 further comprising foam padding on a side of the contour panel adjacent to the user.

Claim 12. (new) The bag of claim 9 wherein the contour panel has a height of about 9.5 inches.

Claim 13. (new) The bag of claim 9 wherein the ridges are horizontal.

Claim 14. (new) The bag of claim 9 wherein the holes are arranged in a pattern.